

Colors Beanbags

Teacher's Guide

Colors Beanbags are a fun, active way to encourage young learners' color identification skills. Here are several game ideas to get you started.

Toss and Say

Divide children into pairs or small groups. Give each team a pile of beanbags. Depending on the age and ability of your students, have children stand from three to six (or more) feet from one another. Have the children take turns tossing the beanbags to one another, identifying the color on each toss.

Color Circles

Draw and label a "color circle" on the ground for each of the beanbags. Have children take turns tossing beanbags into the appropriate circles and identifying something in that color; for example, "Red, apple. Yellow, sun. Gray, elephant."

Beanbags in Action

Use the beanbags to practice both color identification and position words. Place the beanbags in a container. Invite children to find a beanbag of a specified color and place it in a specified position. For example, have a child, "Find the *red* beanbag and place it *behind* your back." Continue with different color beanbags and different position words: on, under, over, near, far, right, left, and so on.

"I Spy" Colors

Place the beanbags in a bag or other container. Have a child reach inside the container without looking and choose a beanbag, for example, green. Then, have him or her locate something in the room that is the same color. When the child finds something, have him or her say, "I spy something green," place the beanbag on the head, shoulder, arm, or any other chosen body part and, while balancing the beanbag, walk over to the object and identify it: "I spy something green. It's a plant."

More “I Spy” Colors

Describe an object in the room that you have “spied.” For example, say, “I spy with my little eye something brown. I post your pictures and stories on it.” The first child who correctly guesses what you are describing (the bulletin board) takes the beanbag of the appropriate color, balances it on his or her head, hand, or other chosen body part, and walks over to identify the object: “I spy with my little eye something that is brown. It’s the bulletin board.”

Scrambled Colors

Arrange the beanbags in a row. Have the children identify the beanbags by color from left to right. Rearrange or scramble the beanbags and let children name them in their new color order. **Variation:** Depending on the age and experience of your students, arrange five or more beanbags in a row. Ask children to close or cover their eyes. Remove one of the beanbags and have children guess which one is missing. As children’s visual memory increases, set out more beanbags and remove more than one of them at a time.

Color Toss

Make a giant color game board from a plastic shower curtain or tablecloth. Draw grid lines with a permanent marker, dividing the game board into 10 sections. Cut out pictures from magazines or have children draw pictures of objects or animals for each color on large index cards. Tape the pictures to the game board. Have children take turns tossing the beanbags onto the pictures with corresponding colors.

For more active toss-and-learn fun, look for these additional beanbag sets:

- EI-3044 Phonics Beanbags
- EI-3045 Alphabet Beanbags
- EI-3047 Number Beanbags
- EI-3048 Shapes Beanbags
- EI-3049 Teachable Touchables™ Texture Squares

